

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Francois MALLET, Francois-Loic COSSET, Jean-Luc
BLOND, Dimitri LAVILLETTE, Olivier BOUTON,
Alessia RUGGIERI

Application No.: New U.S. National Stage of
PCT/FR00/02429

Filed: March 1, 2002

Docket No.: 112062

For: METHOD FOR DETECTING THE EXPRESSION OF AN ENVELOPE PROTEIN OF
A HUMAN ENDOGENOUS RETROVIRUS AND USES OF A GENE CODING FOR
SAID PROTEIN

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination and after entry of the Annexes to the IPER, please amend
the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 21-24 and 26 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject
matter contained therein.

Please replace claims 3,9-11,15,16,18,23-25,27-31 and 34 as follows:

A1
3. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the protein
is encoded by the *env* gene of the HERV-W endogenous retrovirus.

A2
9. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the cells of
said tissue or of said cell culture are chosen from bone cells, muscle cells, placenta cells,